

Message

From: Barber, Anthony [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=5E1B829AD1824045B9B91334160BD8B3-BARBER, ANTHONY]
Sent: 2/28/2020 6:47:41 PM
To: ONEIL Stacey [Stacey.Oneil@state.or.us]
Subject: RE: Follow up from your call with Leah

Stacey,

We have a website that has a good short summary as well as links to additional documents re: the EPA Lower Yakima GWMA work. It's at:

<https://www.epa.gov/wa/lower-yakima-valley-groundwater#summary>

Summary

EPA is responding to community concerns in Washington's Lower Yakima Valley about high nitrate levels in residential drinking water wells and the potential for disproportionate impacts on low income and minority rural populations, local, state, and federal agencies collaborated to develop a Preliminary Assessment and recommendations for moving forward.

One of the recommendations was to develop new projects that could help to identify sources of the contamination in groundwater supplies.

In accordance with this recommendation, EPA conducted sampling in 2010 as part of a study to identify potential sources of nitrate contamination in local groundwater and residential drinking water wells. EPA issued a report in March 2013 entitled, Relation Between Nitrate in Water Wells and Potential Sources in the Lower Yakima Valley. The study concluded that several dairies in the report were likely sources of elevated nitrate levels that were measured in residential drinking water wells downgradient of the dairies.

In December 2012 and January 2013 EPA installed and sampled 10 groundwater monitoring wells in the vicinity of the Yakima Valley dairies that were included in the 2010 study. Data collected by EPA from the monitoring wells confirmed that that the dairies are a source of nitrate contamination to the groundwater beneath and downgradient of these dairies. More recent and extensive data collected by the dairies under the Consent Order affirm this conclusion.

From: ONEIL Stacey <Stacey.Oneil@state.or.us>
Sent: Friday, February 28, 2020 9:55 AM
To: Barber, Anthony <Barber.Anthony@epa.gov>
Subject: Follow up from your call with Leah

Hi Tony,

Leah was running between meetings yesterday so she asked me to send you an email as a follow up to your meeting last week. She said in your chat you mentioned work EPA did in Yakama Valley on ground water. She is wondering if there are any summary documents or information available for her own education. If yes, would you be able to share with her?

She also wanted me to mention that she'll check-in with you at the March 9th meeting, which is now a call due to her calendar, on LUBGWMA.

Please let me know if you have any questions. She is in back-to-backs again today but I'm happy to relay information to her or get clarification.

Thank you!

Stacey O'Neil

Executive Assistant to the Deputy Director, Leah Feldon

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